

35 Years Ago at MSC

MSC representatives discuss roads with highway group

Reprinted from the Jan. 9, 1963, edition of Space News Roundup.

Manned Spacecraft Center officials met with State Highway Commission officials from Harris and Galveston Counties to discuss road-net requirements and traffic problems anticipated at the Clear Lake site within the next several years.

“We expressed our concern about critical traffic problems in that area in the near future,” said Manager of Center Services Martin A. Byrnes. Following the meeting held at state Highway Commission Offices in Austin Dec. 13.

Our on-site population will increase in the next several years to somewhere in the neighborhood of 10,000 people per day. We are certain that this will happen before any date by which an adequate road-net can be constructed, unless the development of this net is begun almost immediately.

Byrnes said that by the end of 1965 “there will be about 3,000 of our own people, and another 7,000 contractor personnel and visitors going to and from the site. This is in addition to visitors or personnel from nearby developments, or supporting housing and shopping areas. If adequate roads are not available it could lead to a colossal traffic jam.

Byrnes and L.G. Lindquist, assistant for Congressional affairs to the director, presented figures in graph form showing NASA and center operating contractor population on the site hitting about 5,000 people by the end of the first quarter of 1964.

Including construction contractor personnel and other known allied

activities, a daily population of 8,000 by mid-1964 and 10,000 or more by early 1965 is expected.

“We have not projected... any firm figures for the work force of any of the many neighboring private building projects or the traffic generated by the occupants of the estimated 10,000 to 20,000 private homes which we understand are now planned in the areas surrounding NASA,” Byrnes said.

Discussing possible solutions to the problem, Byrnes and Lindquist made three suggestions for possible additional roads, “compatible to existing plans.”

Byrnes told the group he understood that work on Highway 528 which passes to the south of the site and now ends just to the east side of the area is “almost complete.”

Our original concern after that is for additional road accesses to the north and south from the site. He said, “We suggest for this purpose a highway along the northwest side of the site which will connect Highway 3 and Red Bluff Road.”

At the same time, there is needed a road to connect the north side of the site with the Ellington AFB area, Byrnes said, where NASA will have an operations strength of about 1,000 people through 1965.

At the present time some 25 percent of the MSC personnel live south of the Clear Lake site, and, Byrnes said, “there appears to be a firm need for additional access directly from the south of the Galveston County area.

“Our facilities people have had the opportunity to talk with our neighbors as well as with officials of both Harris and Galveston



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Clear Lake dock, channel plans to be postponed

Plans for dredging a 16-foot channel through Clear Lake and construction of a barge docking facility adjacent to the Manned Spacecraft Center have been deferred for several years, MSC officials have announced.

Officials pointed out the original plans had been to provide a waterway for barging of heavy components of Apollo spacecraft, which were too large for air or highway transport from point of manufacture to the NASA center at Clear Lake.

However, official adoption of the lunar orbital rendezvous mode of carrying out the landing of Americans on the moon has permitted reduction of the sizes of the modules of the Apollo vehicle to dimensions which permit other means of transportation than waterway.

Eventually, the docking facility and channel will be required and the funds intended for this use will be set aside until needed, but the need is not foreseen for several years.

Counties regarding existing plans for road nets. We have to the best of our knowledge, suggested routes which are compatible with all of these existing plans,” Byrnes said.

Lindquist and Byrnes met with Galveston County officials in the morning and Harris county officials in the afternoon.

Top: Sporting new curbstones, is a portion of Second Street looking south. It is presently being paved.

Above: The outside of an underground utility tunnel is nearing completion after which it will be completely buried when the trench is filled in.

Gilruth Center News

Hours: The Gilruth Center is open from 6:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 6:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday, and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday.

Sign up policy: All classes and athletic activities are on a first come, first served basis. Sign up in person at the Gilruth Center and show a yellow Gilruth or weight room badge. Classes tend to fill up two weeks in advance. Payment must be made in full, in exact change or by check, at the time of registration. No registration will be taken by telephone. For more information, call x30304.

Gilruth badges: Required for use of the Gilruth Center. Employees, spouses, eligible dependents, NASA retirees and spouses may apply for photo identification badges from 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday; and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays. Cost is \$10. Dependents must be between 16 and 23 years old.

Hatha Yoga: A stress relieving, stretching and breathing exercise routine to unite body, mind and spirit. Classes meet from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Thursdays. Cost is \$40 for eight weeks. The instructor is Maureen Siemers.

Nutrition intervention program: Would you like to learn more about the role diet and nutrition play in your health? This six-week program includes lectures, a private consultation with the dietitian and blood analysis to chart your progress. Program is open to all employees, contractors and spouses. For more information call Tammie Shaw at x32980.

Defensive driving: One-day course is offered once a month at the Gilruth Center. Pre-registration required. Cost is \$25. Call for next available class.

Stamp club: Meets every second and fourth Monday at 7 p.m. in Rm. 216.

Weight safety: Required course for employees wishing to use the Gilruth weight room. The next classes are scheduled for at 8 p.m. Jan. 8 and 22 (must be on time to receive credit for class). Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$5. Annual weight room use fee is \$90. Additional family members are \$50.

Exercise: Low-impact class meets from 5:15-6:15 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Cost is \$24 for eight weeks.

Aikido: Introductory martial arts class meets from 5:15-6:15 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday. New classes begin the first of each month. Instruction is by a fourth-degree black belt. Learn to defend yourself and get a great aerobic workout. Cost is \$35 per month.

Step/Bench aerobics: Low impact cardiovascular workout. Classes meet from 5:15-6:15 p.m. Monday, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cost is \$32 for eight weeks. Call Kristen Taragzewski, instructor at x36891 for more information.

Ballroom dancing: Classes meet from 7-8:15 p.m. Thursdays for beginner advanced classes and from 8:15-9:30 p.m. for beginner-intermediate and intermediate students. Cost is \$60 per couple.

Country and western dancing: Beginner class meets 7-8:30 p.m. Monday. Advanced class (must know basic steps to all dances) meets 8:30-10 p.m. Monday. Cost is \$20 per couple.

Fitness program: Health Related Fitness Program includes a medical screening examination and a 12-week individually prescribed exercise program. For more information call Larry Wier at x30301.

Registration for spring volleyball and basketball will start Jan. 12 and end Jan. 24.

Gilruth Home Page: Check out all activities at the Gilruth online at: <http://www4.jsc.nasa.gov/ah/exceaa/Gilruth/Gilruth.htm>

Ticket Window

The following discount tickets are available for purchase in the Bldg. 11 Exchange Store from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday and in the Bldg. 3 Exchange Store from 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday - Friday. For more information call x35350 or x30990.

Moody Gardens: Tickets are \$9.75 for two of four events

Space Center Houston: Adults, \$10.25; children (4-11), \$7. JSC civil service employees free.

Movie discounts: General Cinema, \$5.50; AMC Theater, \$4.75; Sony Loew's Theater, \$5.

Shirts: International Space Station logo pique golf shirts, \$26 and \$28

Stamps: Book of 20, \$6.40

1998 Franklin Planners: Replacement refill orders being taken now.

Sweetwater Pecans: Orders are being taken now; cost is \$5.75 per pound.

Metro passes: Tokens and value cards available.

Book available: Suddenly Tomorrow Came: A History of Johnson Space Center.

Balloons: Balloon bouquets for all occasions, prices vary.

Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo: Tickets go on sale Jan. 28.

Roundup Deadlines

The Space News Roundup is published every other Friday. Story ideas should be submitted as far in advance as possible, but no later than two weeks prior to the date of publication.

The deadline for Dates & Data calendar items is three weeks prior to the date of publication.

Stories and ideas should be submitted to Kelly Humphries in Bldg. 2, Rm. 180, or via e-mail to kelly.o.humphries1@jsc.nasa.gov